

partnerships, and volunteer service by publishing The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. At the top of the Honor Roll is a small group of institutions of higher education who are given the Presidential Award for General Community Service. I am proud to announce that Emory has been awarded the 2008 Presidential Award. This is the highest award possible for a college or university with respect to community service and student engagement. I want to recognize and thank Emory University for its commitment to giving back to the community and fostering a sense of service among its students.

Congratulations to Emory University on being honored as a recipient of the 2008 Presidential Award for General Community Service.

**HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE STAFF SERGEANT TIMOTHY BOWLES**

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Timothy Bowles, who was killed in action with three fellow Airmen when his armored vehicle struck a buried IED near Kot, Afghanistan on March 15, 2009. He leaves behind father, his Louis, a Retired Airman, his mother, Lisa, and a sister, Heather.

Born in Anchorage, Alaska, Timothy grew up on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and lived much of his life in Tucson, where his father was stationed. Timothy graduated from Tucson High School in 2002 and attended Pima Community College before joining the Air Force in 2007. Staff Sergeant Bowles was assigned to the 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base back in Alaska, where he was trained to be a fire truck mechanic. But on this day, he volunteered to stand in for a fellow airman who was not feeling well.

Timothy's Provincial Reconstruction Team was headed out to Jalalabad to check on a local schoolhouse when a pressure-plate IED ended his life. He was only twenty-four years old.

Born to and raised among the United States Air Force, Staff Sergeant Bowles knew well the costs of war. He volunteered for the nine-month deployment that took him to Bagram Air Base in November 2008. He volunteered for this dangerous duty. Tying humanitarian support to local security, Timothy and his PRT teammates stood between civilians and insurgents as Afghans seek to rebuild their long-oppressed country.

We remember Sergeant Bowles and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Timothy's legacy reaches beyond the desolate landscape of Afghanistan and into the hearts of a grateful nation.

This body and this country owe Timothy and his family a debt of gratitude and it is vital that

we remember him and his fellow servicemembers who have paid the ultimate price.

Timothy is a hero both to his country and to his wonderful family. We salute his selfless service, sacrifice and bravery. May he not be forgotten and may his mission continue in the work of this body and the hearts of all Americans.

**TRIBUTE TO BERNARD CATCHER**

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the many residents of my district in recognizing the works and accomplishments of Bernard Catcher who will be honored for his service on March 20th as a "Good Friend and Temple Benefactor" at Temple Shalom's Shabbat Across America Dinner. Bernard Catcher is a man known to me for his hard work and dedication to Brooklyn residents and his sound advice and counsel to those seeking political or community insight. Bernard Catcher's service and reach is legendary. He is the Democratic District Leader of the 59th Assembly District, the head of the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club, advisor to the Thomas Jefferson Young Democrats and has served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. His concern for our communities knows no bounds and stretches over many years. He has served as District Manager of Planning Board 18, serves as the Government Liaison to Coney Island Hospital, and is an accountant by trade. He is active in, and has been recognized by, many local civic organizations from Marine Park to Canarsie and has been honored as "Man of the Year" by the Mill Island Civic Association, among others, for his service. Even with all his other activities Bernard Catcher always finds time and energy to dedicate to Jewish causes and take pride in his Jewish roots. He has served as an officer in the local Bnai Brith and serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Temple Shalom of Flatbush. Always one to shy away from recognition preferring to do his work behind the scenes, I am honored and privileged to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the force of nature that is Bernard Catcher and offer my best wishes on his being named "Good Friend and Benefactor" at the Shabbat Across America Dinner at Temple Shalom on March 20th, 2009.

**TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM F. PITTS**

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, Lieutenant General William F. Pitts. Today, I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible man who dedicated his life in service to our country. On Tuesday, December 30, 2008, Lt. Gen. Pitts passed away at the age of 89.

Lt. Gen. Pitts's father was a career military officer, and Lt. Gen. Pitts was born at March Field Hospital, located in Riverside, California, on Thanksgiving Day 1919. When he was 10 years old, Lt. Gen. Pitts took his first airplane ride and vowed to become an Air Force pilot. In 1943, he graduated from West Point and flew 25 World War II missions against Japan in a B-29 Superfortress. In his last mission in the bomber, he was shot down off the coast of Japan but was able to parachute out of the plane and was rescued by a submarine.

After Lt. Gen. Pitts's heroic service during World War II, he was steadily promoted and earned three stars. He served as a NATO commander in Turkey, four tours at the Pentagon and also as a diplomat in Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, England and Taiwan. In 1972, Lt. Gen. Pitts returned to March Air Force Base as the Commander of the 15th Air Force. His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with an oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem with one oak leaf cluster and the Purple Heart.

In 1975, Lt. Gen. Pitts retired from the Air Force and he and his wife, Doris, made Riverside their permanent home in the 1990s. He was active in the March community during his retirement, helping to keep the base open during the Base Realignment and Closure process. In honor of his efforts, March erected a stone post at the parade grounds on the base. He was also a board member of the March Field Museum.

On December 22, 2008, Lt. Gen. Pitts celebrated his 60th anniversary with his wife Doris. He is survived by his wife; daughters Cowgill, Alisha and Linda; sister Nanetta Atkinson; and four grandchildren.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men like Lt. Gen. Pitts who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. Lt. Gen. Pitts was a dear friend and above all, he was a patriot. He will be sorely missed but his legacy and service to our great nation will always be remembered.

**RESOLUTION REGARDING GIRLS' ACCESS TO EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN**

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution expressing the strong concern of the House of Representatives about the actions of the Taliban in Swat, Pakistan to restrict girls' access to education. In the past year, the deliberate destruction of hundreds of schools for girls has forced more than 40,000 young women to forego schooling. This resolution would urge the Government of Pakistan to act swiftly to halt and reverse the Taliban's unconstitutional ban on education for girls. It also encourages the Secretary of State to review and report on Pakistan's progress in protecting the rights of